

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended by introducing the transitional phrase "consisting of". Component (d) can be excluded because the specification states that "(d) = 0-5%..." (page 1, lines 33-34, specification). The present claims, as amended, exclude the unsaturated C₃-C₅ carboxylic acid of Straub et al.

For the reasons expressed above, it is urged that the prior art references cited by the examiner either singly or in combination fail to anticipate or suggest the present invention as defined by the amended claims. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established by the examiner, and the rejection under 35 USC § 103 should be withdrawn.

The due date for applicant's brief is July 24, 2003 as indicated by the attached copy of the post card showing that the Notice of Appeal was received by the USPTO on March 24, 2003.

A check in the amount of \$410.00 is attached to cover the required extension fee.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0345. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
KEIL & WEINKAUF



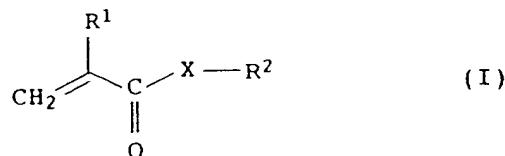
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (currently amended) A cationic polymer obtained by free-radical copolymerization of
components consisting of

(a) from 50 to 70% by weight of one or more monomers of the formula I

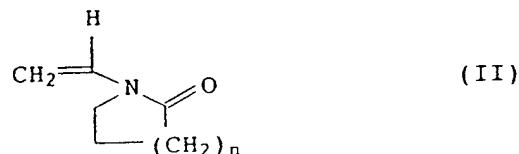


X = O, NR¹,

R¹ = H, C₁-C₈-alkyl,

R² = tert-butyl,

(b) from 5 to 45% by weight of one or more monomers of the formula II



where n = 1 to 3,

(c) from 5 to 40% by weight of a monoethylenically unsaturated monomer having at least one amine-containing group where up to 40% by weight, based on (a), (b), and (c), of the monomer (a) can be replaced by a monomer of the formula I where R² = C₂-C₂₂-alkyl.